In the claims:

For the Examiner's convenience, all pending claims are presented below with changes shown. Please cancel claims 12, 15-18 and 23-27 without prejudice.

1. (Currently Amended)   A method comprising:

receiving a request for a data stream from a client;

sampling the data stream;

generating one or more fingerprint blocks for one or more sampled portions of the data stream; and

~~sending~~ transmitting the one or more fingerprint blocks to the client via a first connection; and

~~sending~~ simultaneously transmitting the data stream to the client via a second connection.

2. (Original)   The method of claim 1, comprising sending to the client parameters for sampling the data stream.

3. (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein generating one or more fingerprint blocks comprises generating cyclic redundancy check (CRC) values for the one or more sampled portions of the data stream.

4. (Currently Amended)   A method comprising:

requesting a data stream by a client from a server;

receiving a first set of fingerprint blocks at the client from the server via a first connection;

simultaneously receiving the data stream ~~by~~ at the client from the server via a second connection;

sampling the data stream at the client;

generating ~~one or more~~ a second set of fingerprint blocks for one or more sampled portions of the data stream at the client; and

comparing ~~one or more~~ the second set of fingerprint blocks ~~generated at the client to one or more~~ to the first set of fingerprint blocks ~~generated at the server~~.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the first connection is an out-of-band connection and the second connection is a primary data connection ~~comprising obtaining by the client one or more fingerprint blocks generated at the server~~.

6. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 4, comprising generating an error message at the client if the second set of fingerprint blocks do not match the first set of fingerprint blocks. ~~one or more fingerprint blocks generated at the client do not match one or more fingerprint blocks generated at the server~~.

7. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim ~~6~~ 4, <u>further</u> comprising <u>transmitting the</u> ~~communicating an~~ error message to the server ~~from the client if one or more fingerprint~~ ~~blocks generated at the client do not match one or more fingerprint blocks generated at the~~ ~~server.~~

8. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 4, <u>further</u> comprising ~~communicating~~ <u>transmitting</u> a valid status message to the server from the client if <u>the second set of</u> <u>fingerprint blocks match the first set of fingerprint blocks</u> ~~one or more fingerprint blocks~~ ~~generated at the client match one or more fingerprint blocks generated at the server.~~

9. (Currently Amended)   A method comprising:

   requesting a data stream from a server by a client;

   sampling the data stream at the server;

   generating ~~one or more~~ <u>a first set of</u> fingerprint blocks for one or more sampled

portions of the data stream at the server;

   <u>transmitting the first set of fingerprint blocks to the client via a first connection;</u>

   <u>transmitting</u> ~~sending~~ the data stream from the server to the client <u>via a second</u>

connection;

   <u>receiving the first set of fingerprint blocks at the client via the first connection;</u>

   receiving the data stream by the client <u>via the second connection;</u>

   sampling the data stream at the client;

generating ~~one or more~~ <u>a second set of</u> fingerprint blocks for one or more sampled portions of the data stream at the client; and

comparing ~~one or more~~ <u>the second set of</u> fingerprint blocks ~~generated at the client to~~ ~~one or more~~ <u>to the first set of</u> fingerprint blocks ~~generated at the server~~.

10. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 9, <u>wherein the first connection is an out-of-band connection and the second connection is a primary data connection</u> ~~comprising~~ ~~sending one or more fingerprint blocks generated at the server to the client~~.

11. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 9, comprising communicating an error message to the server from the client if a threshold percentage of ~~one or more~~ <u>the second set of</u> fingerprint blocks ~~generated at the client do not match one or more~~ <u>the first set of</u> fingerprint blocks ~~generated at the server~~.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 9, wherein generating ~~one or more~~ <u>the first set of</u> fingerprint blocks at the server comprises generating cyclic redundancy check (CRC) values for one or more sampled portions of the data stream.

14. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 9, <u>further</u> comprising:

communicating a valid status message from the client to the server if a threshold

percentage of ~~one or more~~ <u>the second set of</u> fingerprint blocks ~~generated at the client~~ match

~~one or more~~ <u>the first set of</u> fingerprint blocks ~~generated at the server~~; and

generating an error message at the server if the valid status message is not received in

a predetermined amount of time.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended)   A client comprising:

a processor;

and a memory coupled to said processor having stored therein a set of instructions to

cause said processor to:

~~request a data stream from a server;~~

~~receive the data stream;~~

~~sample the data stream;~~

~~generate one or more fingerprint blocks for one or more sampled portions of the data stream at the client, and~~

~~compare one or more fingerprint blocks generated at the client to one or more fingerprint blocks generated at the server.~~

receive a first set of fingerprint blocks from the server via a first connection

simultaneously receive the data stream at the client via a second connection;

sample the data stream at the client;

generate a second set of fingerprint blocks for one or more sampled portions of the data stream at the client; and

compare the second set of fingerprint blocks to the first set of fingerprint blocks.

20.   (Currently Amended) The client of claim 19, wherein the first connection is an out-of-band connection and the second connection is a primary data connection ~~the set of instructions comprises instructions to cause the processor to obtain one or more fingerprint blocks generated at the server~~.

21. (Currently Amended)   The client of claim 19, wherein the set of instructions comprises instructions to cause the processor to communicate an error message to the server if ~~one or more~~ the second set of fingerprint blocks generated at the client do not match ~~one or more~~ the first set of fingerprint blocks generated at the server.

22. (Currently Amended)   The client of claim 19, wherein the set of instructions comprises instructions to cause the processor to communicate a valid status message to the server if ~~one or more~~ the second set of fingerprint blocks generated at the client match ~~one or more~~ the first set of fingerprint blocks generated at the server.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)   .

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended)   A machine readable medium having stored therein a plurality of machine readable instructions for execution by a processor, the machine readable instructions to: ~~receive a request for a data stream from a client; sample the data stream;~~ ~~generate one or more fingerprint blocks for one or more sampled portions of the data~~ ~~stream; send one or more fingerprint blocks to the client; and send the data stream to the~~ ~~client.~~

receive a request for a data stream from a client;

sample the data stream;

generating one or more fingerprint blocks for one or more sampled portions of the data stream; and

transmit the one or more fingerprint blocks to the client via a first connection; and simultaneously transmit the data stream to the client via a second connection.

29. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 28, wherein the machine readable instructions comprise instructions to generate one or more fingerprint blocks by generating cyclic redundancy check (CRC) values for the one or more sampled portions of the data stream.

30. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 28, wherein the machine readable instructions comprise instructions to send to the client parameters for sampling the data stream.